

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Previously, claims 1-8 were pending. This amendment amends previous independent claim 7 and adds new claims 9-13. Claim 10 is also independent.

The Official Action objected to the specification. Responsively, the specification has been amended.

The Official Action objected the drawing Figure 2. Responsively, drawing Figure 2 has been amended to change the arrowhead.

The Official Action rejected claims 7-8 under §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Responsively, claim 7 has been amended so as to recite the invention in a manner which is clearly enabled. Withdrawal of the enablement rejection is solicited.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 1-6 have been allowed.

Claims 7-8 stand rejected as anticipated by SMITH 6,349,097.

Amended claim 7, as well as the newly-added claims, are believed to be patentable over SMITH.

As to independent claim 7, SMITH is not seen as disclosing the recited system. To clarify the system, the plural

data output ports connected to output toward an input side of a crosspoint switch is now explicitly recited. Further, the internal cell generating section is recited as accepting an original user data in a switching format of at least one of an Internet protocol cell and an asynchronous transfer cell. This recitation further recites that the internal cell generating section generates, from the user data destination information within the accepted user data, a new internal cell comprising the original user data and an output index information indexing the user data destination information to at least one of the plural data output ports. A single output port would be the case of a unicast transmission, whereas plural output ports would be for the case of multicast. SMITH is not seen as generating such an internal cell which creates a new cell comprising the original user data cell and the output index information, where the output index information indexes user data destination information from the accepted original user data and the indexing is to at least one of the plural data output ports.

Further, SMITH is not seen as having an output port conversion table of the type recited in independent claim 7. That is, a conversion table storing a relationship between the output index information and the output port numbers, in the form of one index value corresponding to one output port for unicast

and one index value corresponding to plural output ports for multicast.

As to claim 10, the recitations concerning the internal cell generating section are believed patentable as well as those directed to the output port conversion section.

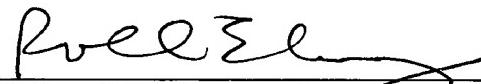
The newly-added dependent claims are also believed to include features patentable over the applied reference.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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